





USS Sphinx

Design Type:Converted LST/ Auxiliary

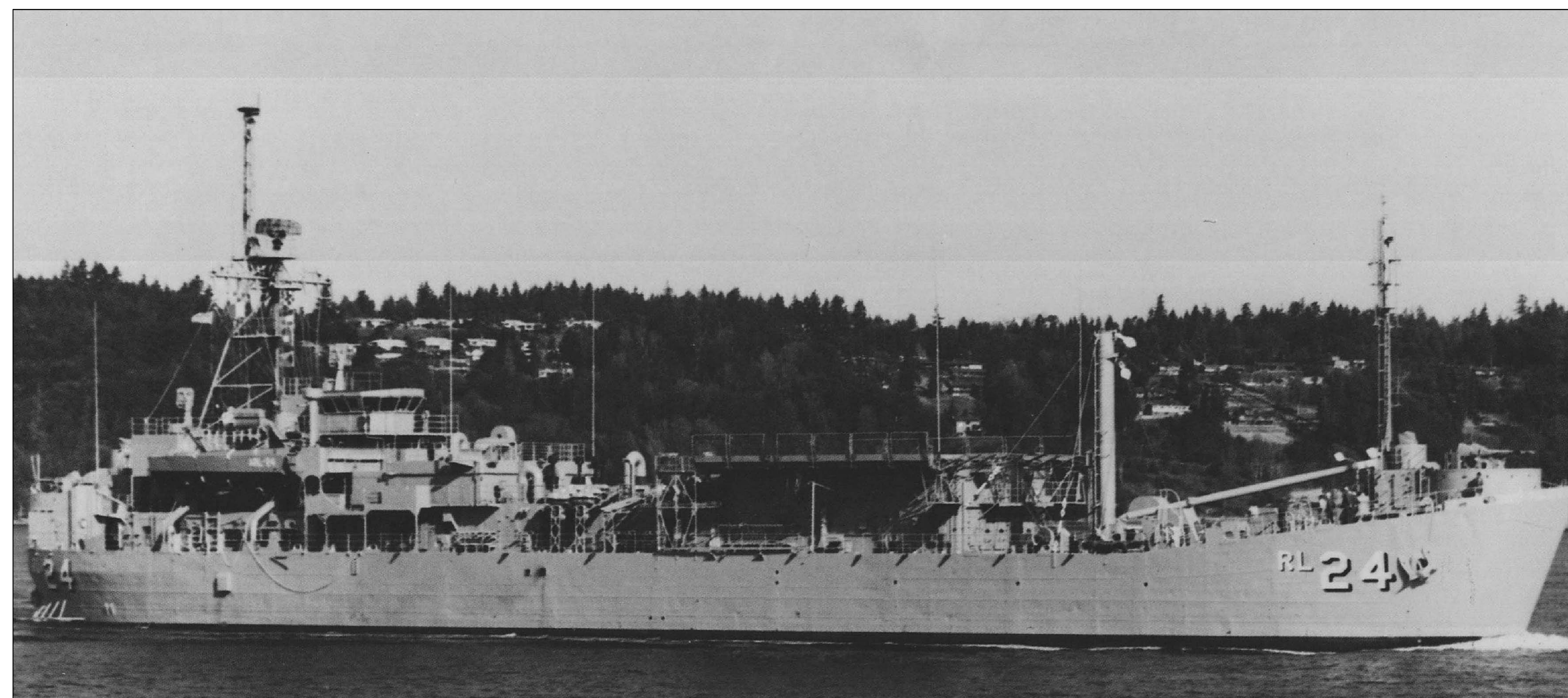
Class: Achelous

Official Number: ARL-24



PRINCIPLE CHARACTERISTICS

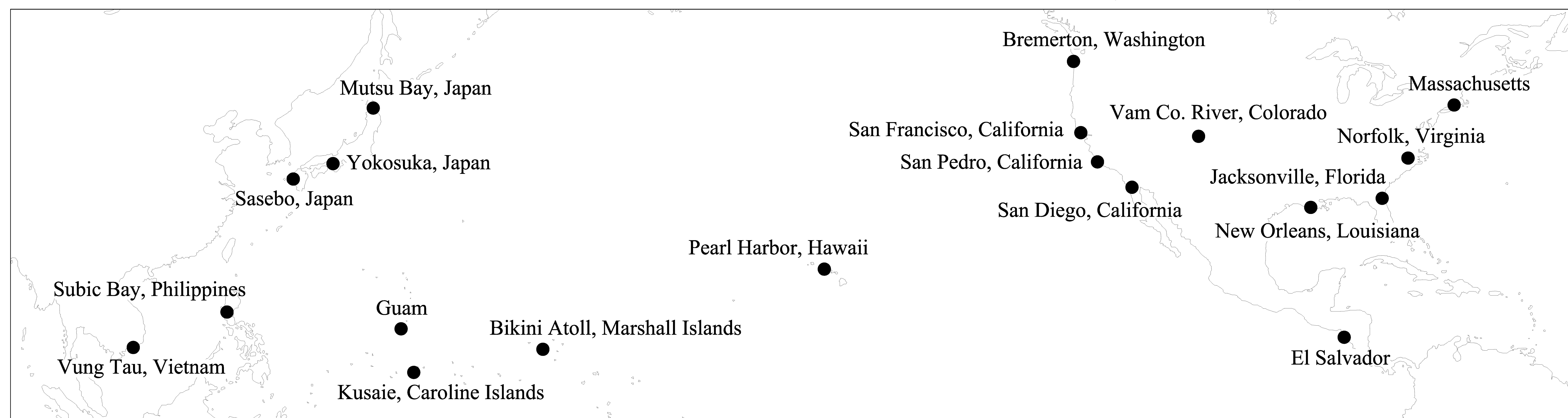
BUILDER: BETHLEHEM STEEL COMPANY
BUILT: 1944
LOA: 327'-9"
BEAM: 50'-0"
DRAFT: 11'-2"
SPEED: 12 KNOTS
PROPULSION: 2 GENERAL MOTORS, DIESEL
ENGINES, TWO SHAFTS,
TWIN RUDDERS,
1,800 SHAFT-HORSEPOWER
DISPLACEMENT: 3,960 TONS (FULL LOAD)
1,781 TONS (LIGHTWEIGHT)
COMPLEMENT: 21 OFFICERS
232 ENLISTED
ARMAMENT: 2 QUAD 40MM AA GUN
MOUNTS W/ MK 51 DIRECTORS
2 TWIN 40MM AA GUN
MOUNTS W/ MK 51 DIRECTORS
6 TWIN 20MM AA GUN
MOUNTS



U.S.S SPHINX - c.A.1944 (U.S. NAVY PHOTO)



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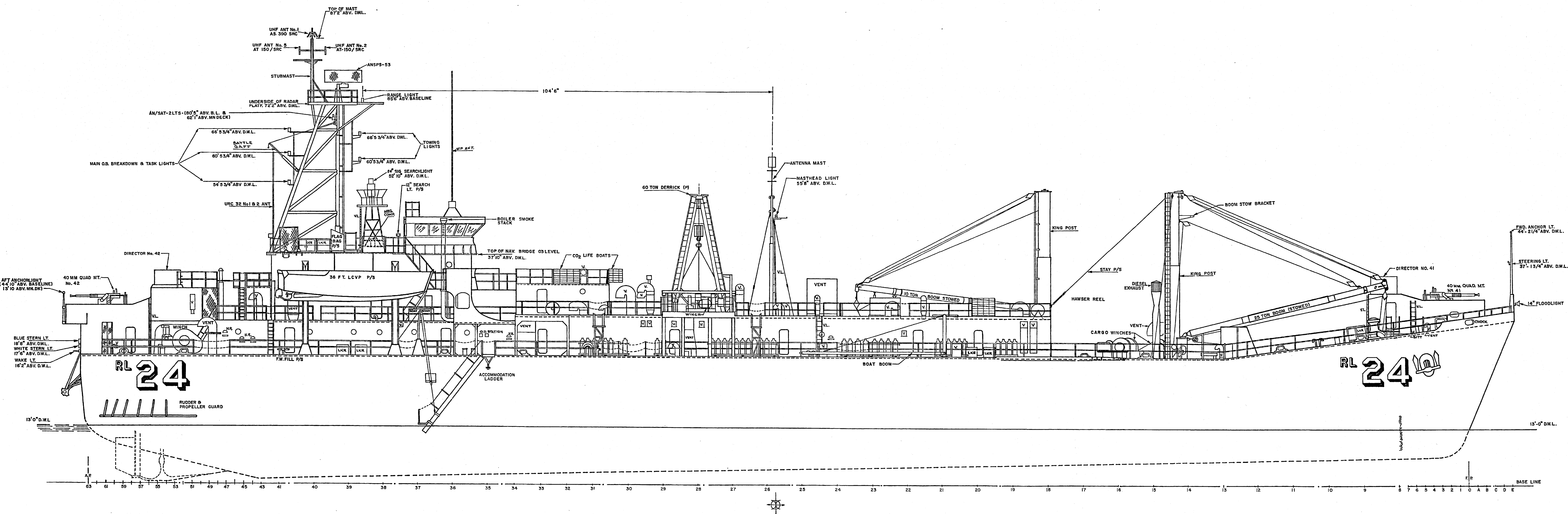


NOTE: COURSES DEPICTED ON MAP ARE ABSTRACTED TO CONNECT LOCATIONS. THEY DO NOT REPRESENT THE EXACT COURSES TRAVELED.

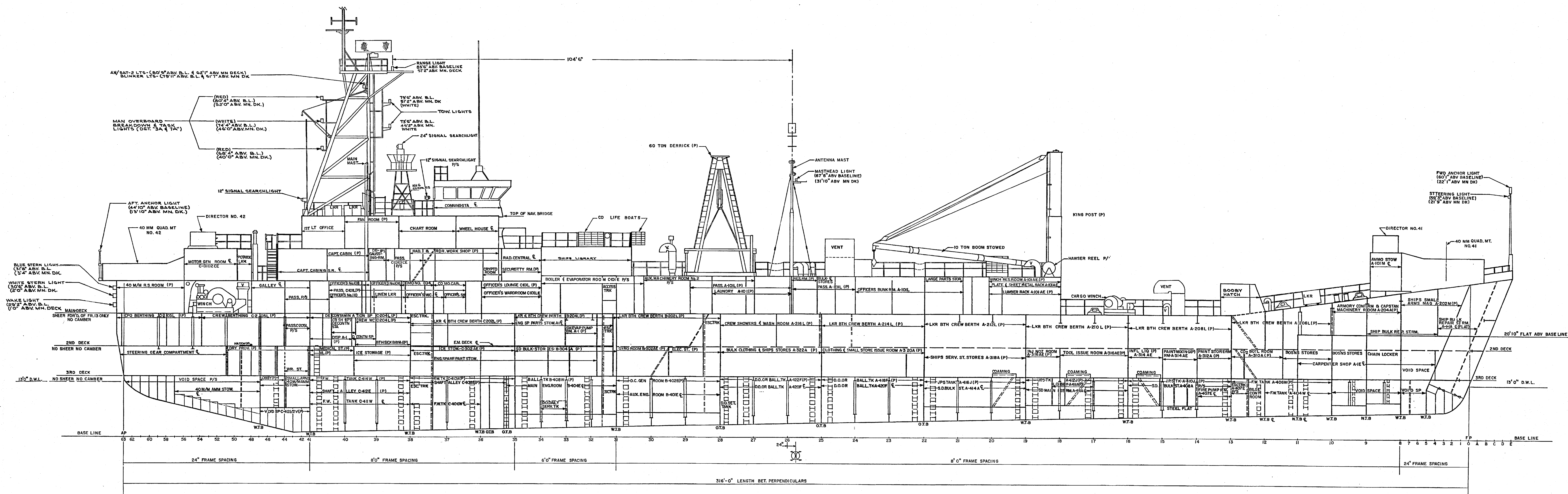
LST-963 (*USS SPHINX*) WAS AN EXAMPLE OF THE MASS PRODUCED SHIPS BUILT DURING WORLD WAR II BY THE U.S. MARITIME COMMISSION. THE SPHINX REMAINS NOTABLE AS A VERSATILE PLATFORM UTILIZED BY THE U.S. NAVY ON AND OFF FOR FORTY-FIVE YEARS. FIRST INTENDED TO BE A LANDING SHIP TANK CARRIER (LST), THE NAVY REALIZED THAT THE SHIP COULD BE CONVERTED TO REPAIR OTHER LANDING CRAFT THAT WERE BATTLE DAMAGED AND CONVERTED IT TO AN AUXILIARY LANDING CRAFT REPAIR SHIP (ARL). ITS SHALLOW DRAFT ALLOWED IT TO MANEUVER INTO THE ATOLLS AND CONDUCT MISSIONS AFTER TROOPS HAD SECURED THE ISLAND. THE NAVY REVITALIZED THE SPHINX AFTER WORLD WAR II FOR SERVICE IN KOREA PERFORMING REPAIR WORK, AS WELL AS THE VIETNAM WAR. IN THE MID-EIGHTIES, THE U.S. NAVY FOUND THE SPHINX TO BE AN EXCELLENT VESSEL FOR SIGNALS-INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION. THE NAVY RECONFIGURED THE SHIP TO CARRY ITS LATEST HARDWARE AND IT WAS SUCCESSFULLY USED OFF THE COAST OF EL SALVADOR AND IN THE CARIBBEAN FOR FOUR YEARS. THE NAVY DECOMMISSIONED SPHINX IN 1989 AND IT WAS SCRAPPED IN 2007.

THE PROJECT WAS CO SPONSORED BY THE U.S. MARITIME ADMINISTRATION (MARAD), UNDER THE DIRECTION OF ERHARD KOEHLER (MARAD SHIPS DISPOSAL COORDINATOR) AND BARBARA VOULGARIS (MARAD HISTORIAN). THE PROJECT WAS PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF TODD CROTEAU (HAER MARITIME PROGRAM COORDINATOR). BRYANA DUBARD AND ASHLEY T. WALKER (HAER CONTRACT ARCHITECTS) GENERATED VESSEL DRAWINGS. DAVID HAAS (HAER CONTRACT PHOTOGRAPHER) CREATED LARGE FORMAT PHOTOGRAPHS.

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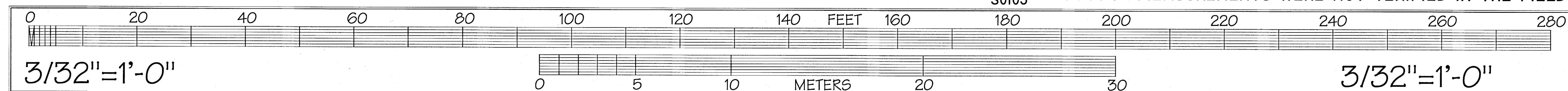


OUTBOARD PROFILE

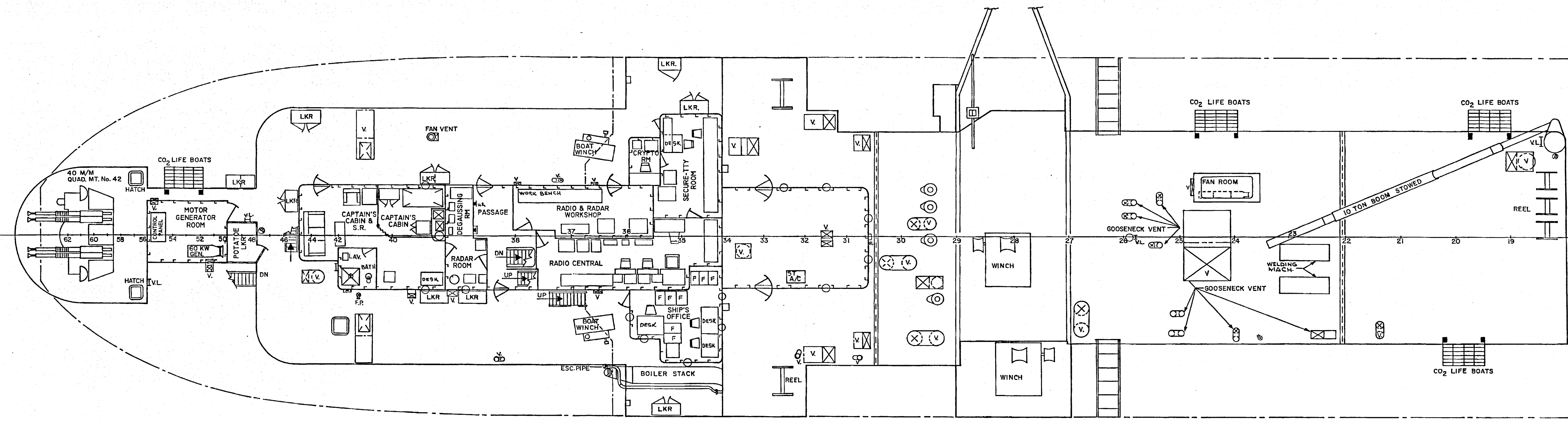


INBOARD PROFILE

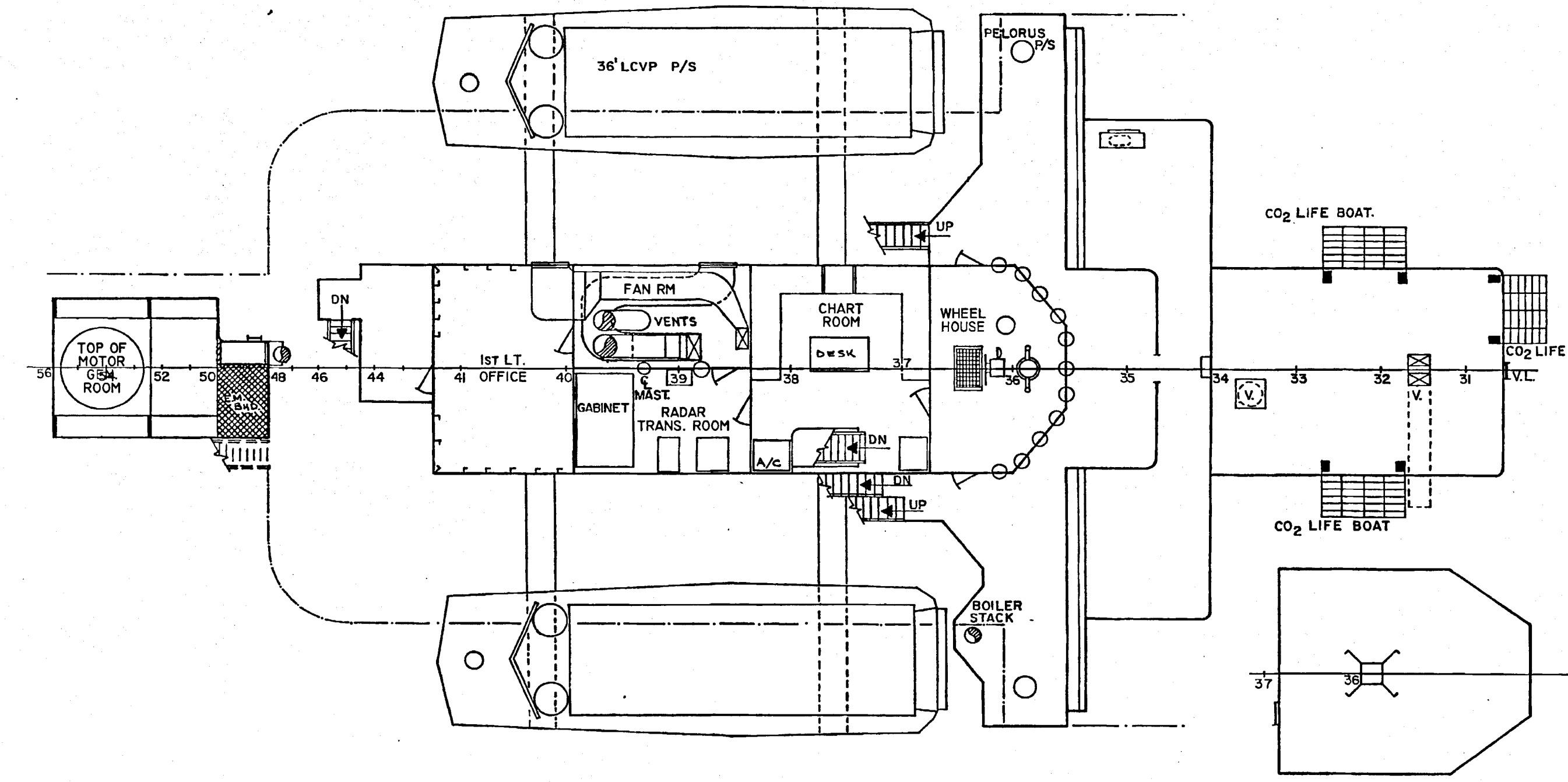
NOTE: EACH DRAWING IS SCANNED FROM ORIGINAL DESIGN DRAWING BU. SHIPS NO. ARL 24 ⁸⁴⁵/_{S0103} -2563375. MEASUREMENTS WERE NOT VERIFIED IN THE FIELD.



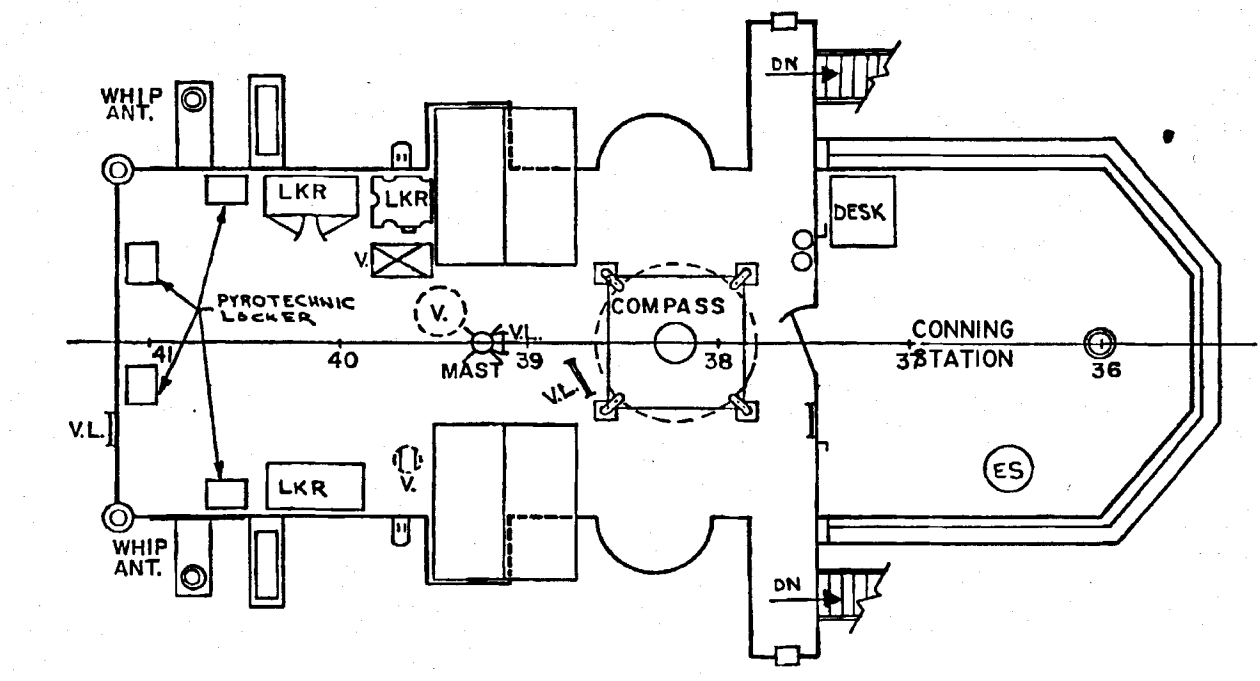
USS Sphinx



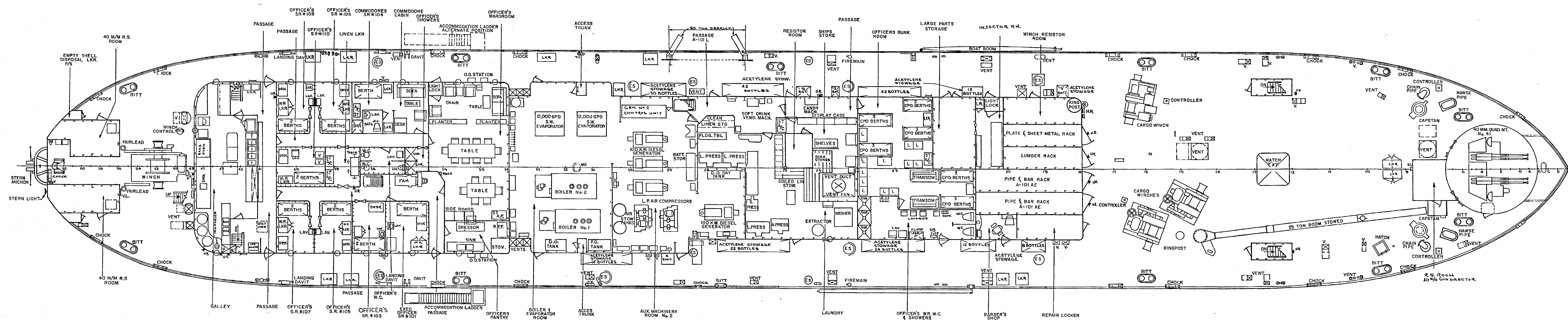
BOAT DECK
O1 LEVEL



NAVIGATION BRIDGE
DECK

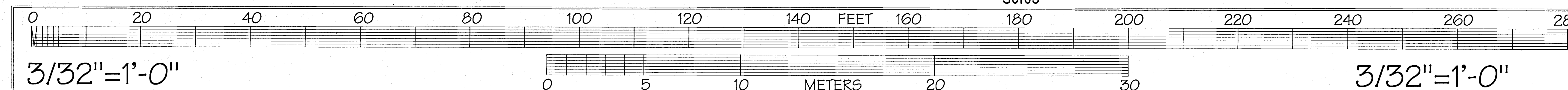


TOP OF
NAVIGATION BRIDGE
DECK

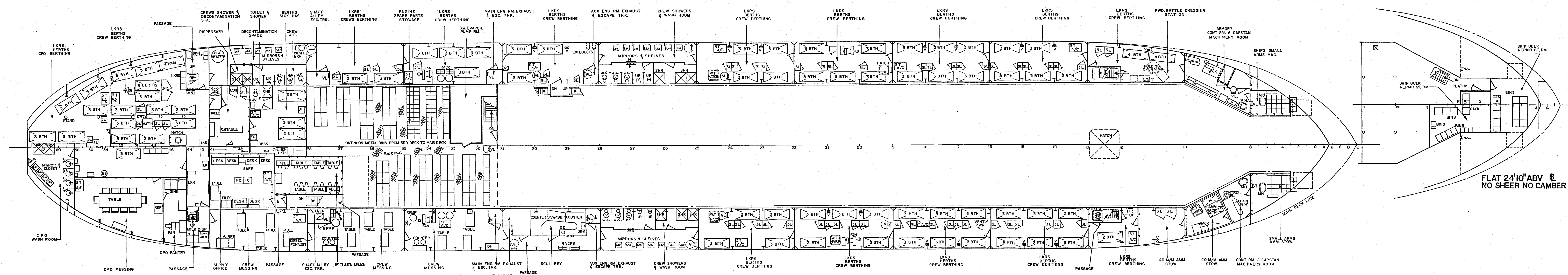


MAIN DECK

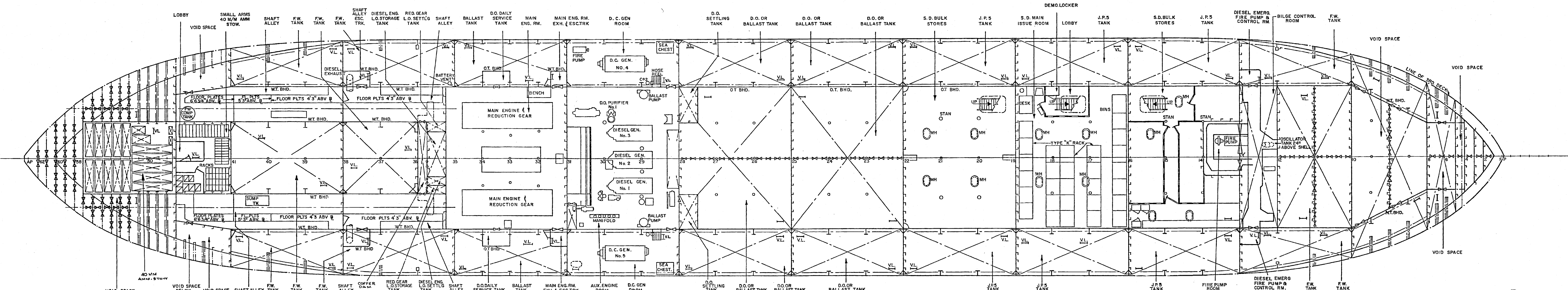
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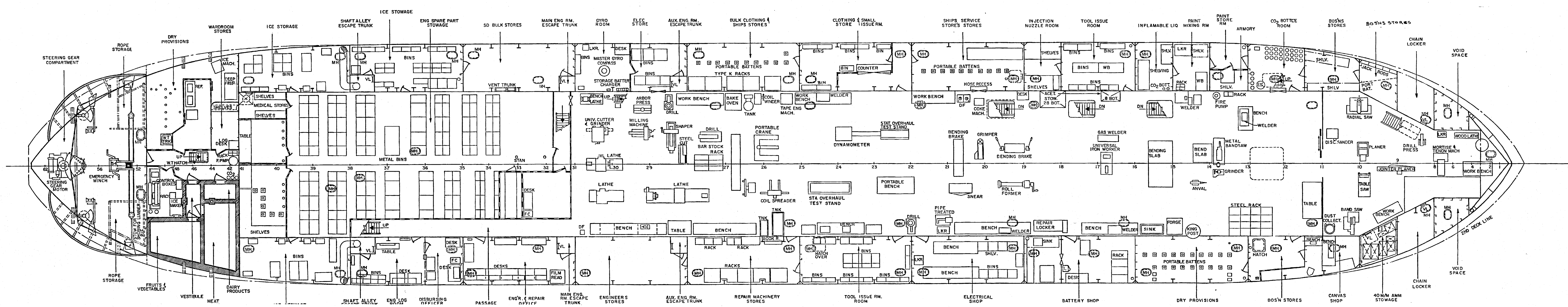
USS Sphinx



SECOND DECK

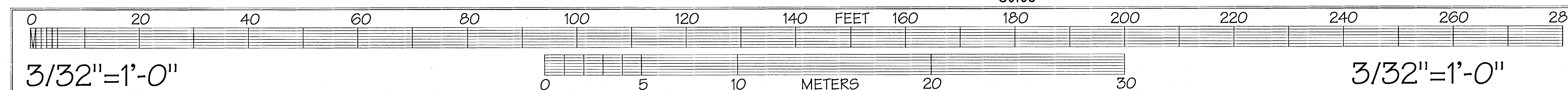


HOLD

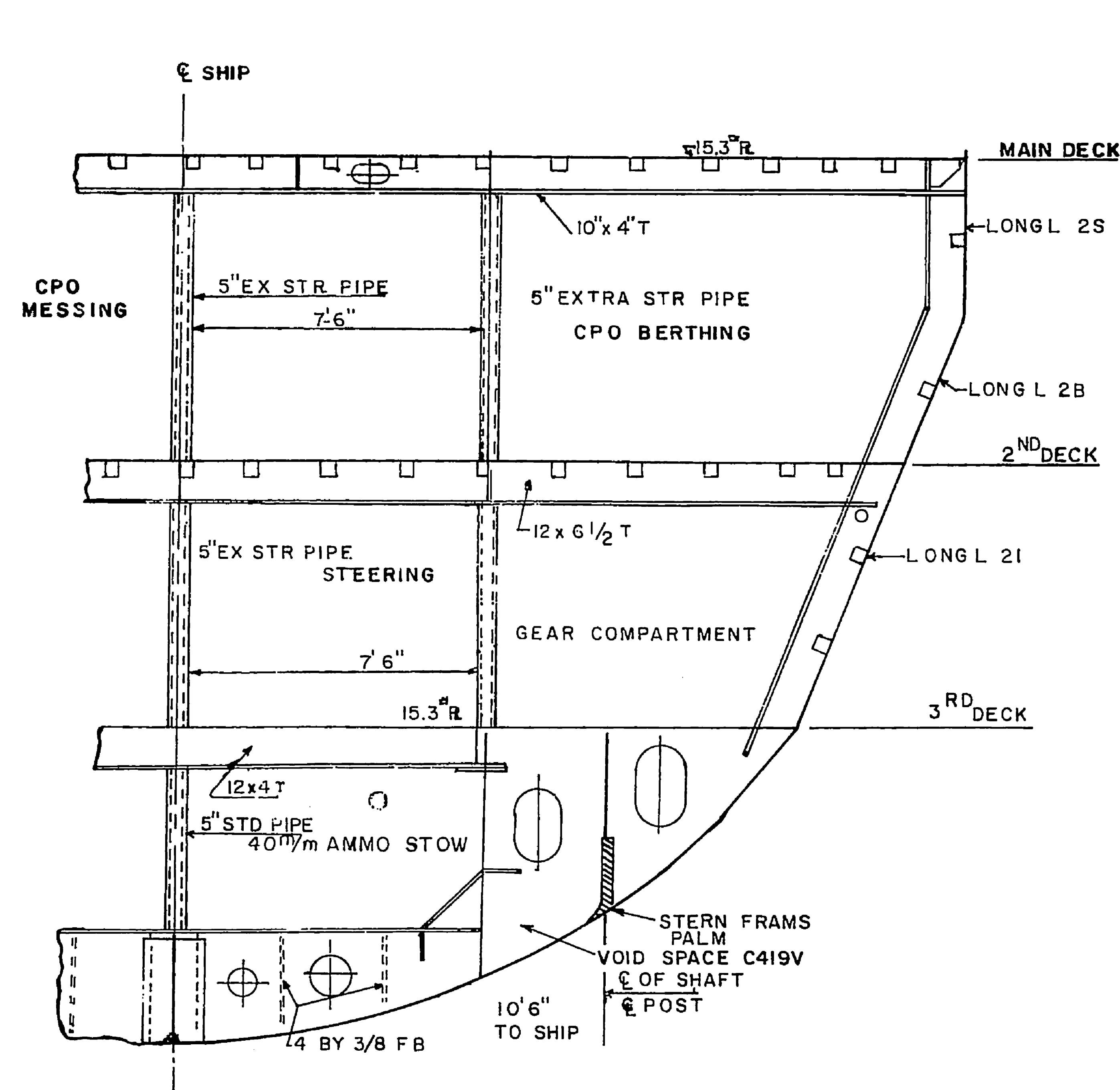


THIRD DECK

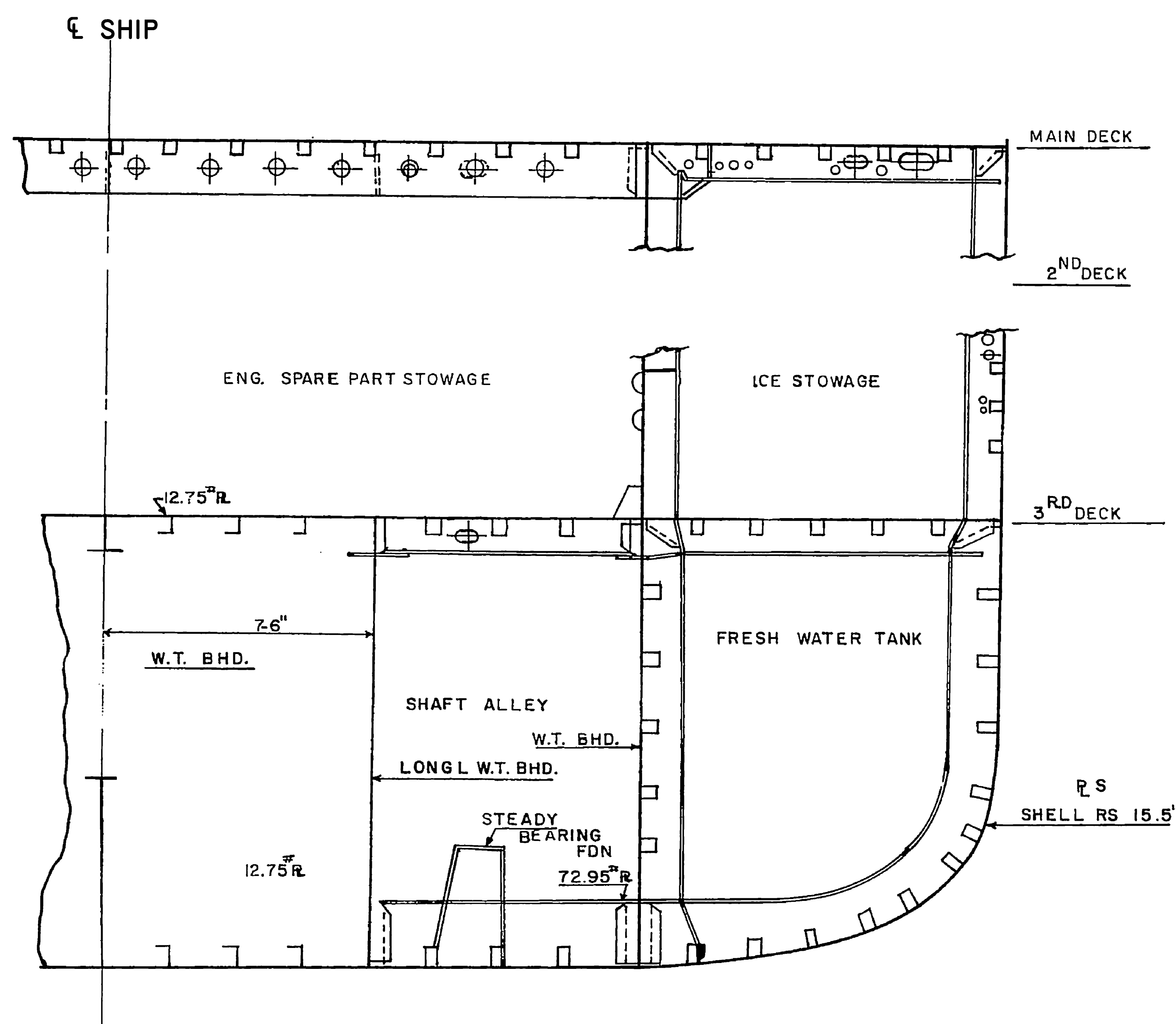
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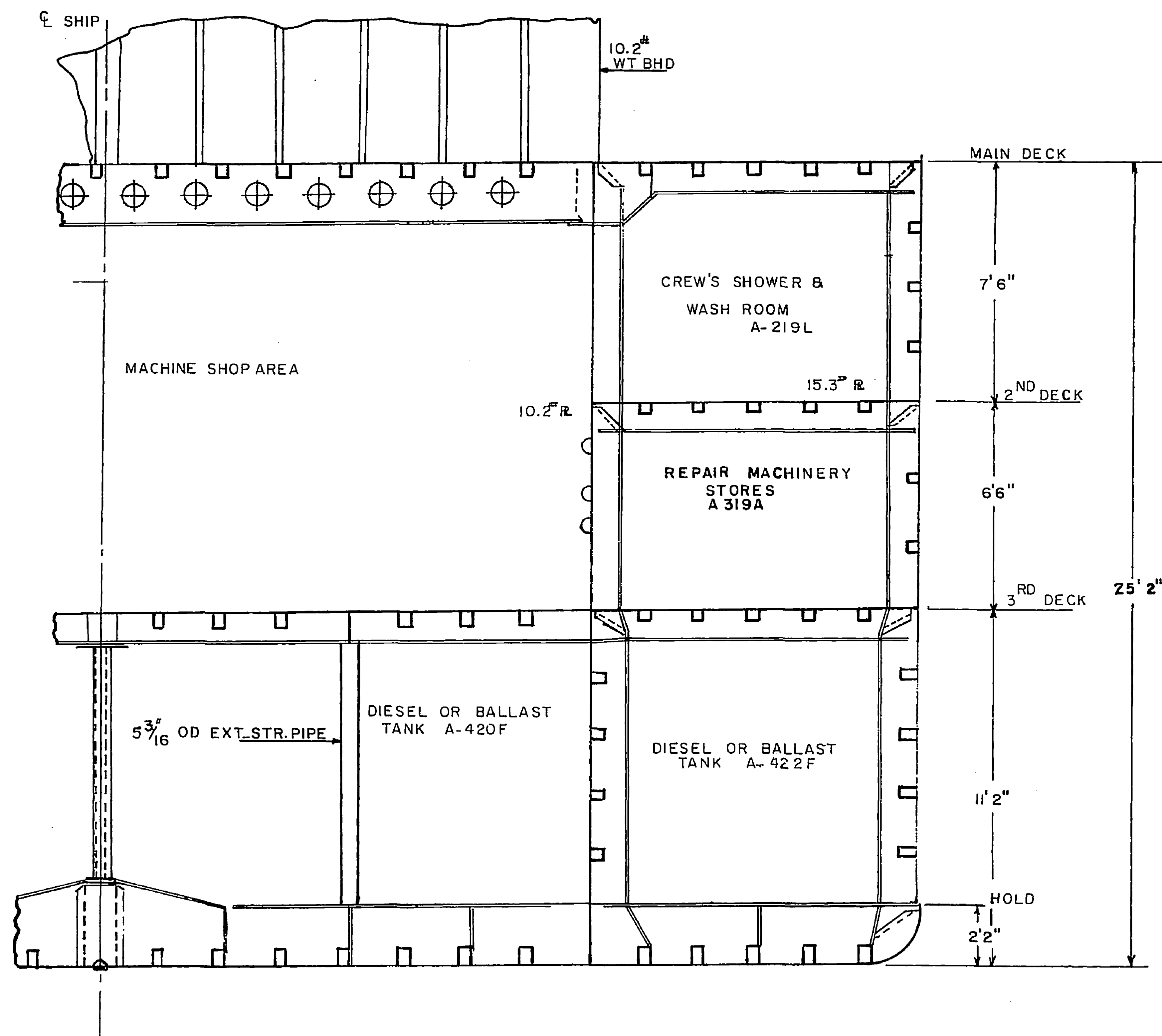
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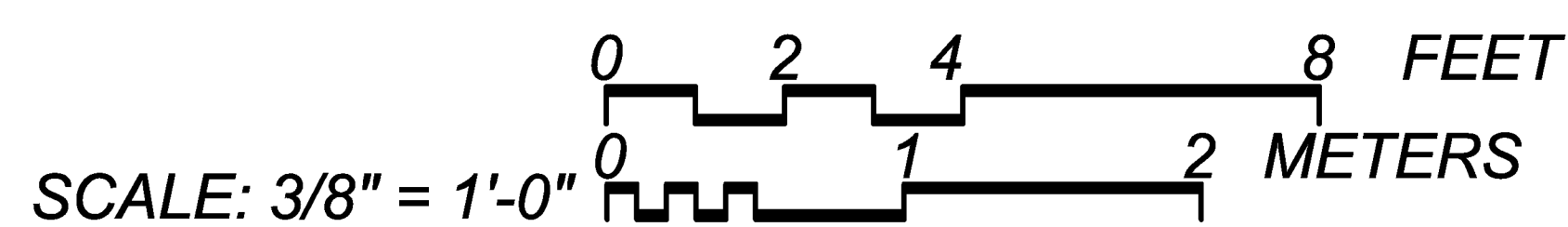
FRAME 55
LOOKING AFT



FRAME 36
LOOKING AFT



MIDSHIP SECTION FRAME 26
LOOKING FWD



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